

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A utility access device, comprising:

a) elongated upper and lower sleeves, telescopically coupled to one another, and ~~together having upper and lower ends, the sleeves being displaceable with respect to one another so that the sleeves together have an adjustable length between the upper and lower ends;~~

b) ~~an inclined upper edge, formed at the upper end of the upper sleeve; having a horizontal lower end and an inclined upper edge with an angle with respect to horizontal the lower end~~ greater than 0 degrees;

c) an angled ring, rotatably and directly disposed on the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve;

d) the angled ring having upper and lower opposite edges forming an angle therebetween greater than 0 degrees, the lower edge of the angled ring being directly disposed on the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve;

e) a cover, removably and directly disposed on the angled ring;

f) the ring being rotatable with respect to the upper sleeve between at least two different orientations, including:

i) a horizontal orientation in which the cover is horizontal; and

ii) an angled orientation in which the cover forms an angle with respect to horizontal configured to be flush with the ground surface.

2. (currently amended) A device in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

an enlarged portion, formed at ~~the~~ a lower end of the lower sleeve, configured to extend over and along side a utility.

3. (currently amended) A device in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

a flange, circumscribing a the lower end of the upper sleeve and extending laterally outwardly therefrom, configured to engage fill surrounding the sleeves and to resist movement of the upper sleeve.

4. (original) A device in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
a shoulder, circumscribing the angled ring and abutting to the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve.

5. (original) A device in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:
a) a socket, formed at the upper end of the upper sleeve; and
b) a protrusion, formed on the angled ring and receivable within the socket of the upper sleeve.

6. (original) A device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the lower sleeve is longitudinally slidable within the upper sleeve.

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) A device in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a utility, disposed at the a lower end of the device lower sleeve, selected from the group consisting of: a valve, a switch and a meter.

10. (currently amended) A utility access device, comprising:
a) an elongated lower sleeve having a lower end;
b) an enlarged portion, formed at the lower end of the lower sleeve, configured to extend over and along side a utility;
c) an elongated upper sleeve, telescopically engaging the lower sleeve, having an upper end and a horizontal lower end;
d) a socket, formed at the upper end of the upper sleeve;
e) an inclined upper edge, formed at the upper end of the upper sleeve, having an angle with respect to ~~horizontal~~ the horizontal lower end of the upper sleeve greater than 0 degrees;

f) an angled ring, rotatably disposed on the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve;

g) the angled ring having upper and lower opposite edges forming an angle therebetween greater than 0 degrees; and

h) a cover, removably disposed on the angled ring.

11. (currently amended) A device in accordance with claim 10, further comprising:

a flange, circumscribing a the lower end of the upper sleeve and extending laterally outwardly therefrom, configured to engage fill surrounding the sleeves and to resist movement of the upper sleeve.

12. (original) A device in accordance with claim 10, further comprising:

a shoulder, circumscribing the angled ring and abutting to the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve.

13. (original) A device in accordance with claim 10, wherein the lower sleeve is longitudinally slidable within the upper sleeve.

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) A device in accordance with claim 10, further comprising a utility, disposed at ~~the~~ a lower end of the ~~device~~ lower sleeve, selected from the group consisting of: a valve, a switch and a meter.

Claims 17-21 (cancelled)

22. (new) A device in accordance with claim 1, further comprising:

a shoulder, extending laterally outwardly from the inclined upper edge of the

upper sleeve;

a collar, circumscribing the shoulder and extending longitudinally from the shoulder;

a flange, extending laterally outwardly from the angled ring, and disposed over the collar of the upper sleeve; and

a protrusion, extending longitudinally from the angled ring and into the collar of the upper sleeve.

23. (new) A device in accordance with claim 10, further comprising:

a shoulder, extending laterally outwardly from the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve;

a collar, circumscribing the shoulder and extending longitudinally from the shoulder;

a flange, extending laterally outwardly from the angled ring, and disposed over the collar of the upper sleeve; and

a protrusion, extending longitudinally from the angled ring and into the collar of the upper sleeve.

24. (new) A utility access device, comprising:

a) an elongated lower sleeve having a lower end;

b) an elongated upper sleeve, telescopically engaging the lower sleeve, having an upper end and a horizontal lower end;

c) the upper end of the upper sleeve having an inclined upper edge with an angle with respect to the lower end greater than 0 degrees;

d) a single angled ring, rotatably and directly disposed on the upper sleeve, having upper and lower opposite edges forming an angle therebetween greater than 0 degrees;

e) the lower edge of the angled ring being directly disposed on the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve; and

f) a cover, removably and directly disposed on the angled ring.

25. (new) A device in accordance with claim 24, further comprising:
an enlarged portion, formed at the lower end of the lower sleeve, configured to extend over and along side a utility.
26. (new) A device in accordance with claim 24, further comprising:
a flange, circumscribing the lower end of the upper sleeve and extending laterally outwardly therefrom, configured to engage fill surrounding the sleeves and to resist movement of the upper sleeve.
27. (new) A device in accordance with claim 24, further comprising:
a shoulder, circumscribing the angled ring and abutting to the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve.
28. (new) A device in accordance with claim 24, further comprising:
a) a socket, formed at the upper end of the upper sleeve; and
b) a protrusion, formed on the angled ring and receivable within the socket of the upper sleeve.
29. (new) A device in accordance with claim 24, wherein the lower sleeve is longitudinally slidable within the upper sleeve.
30. (new) A device in accordance with claim 24, further comprising a utility, disposed at the lower end of the lower sleeve, selected from the group consisting of: a valve, a switch and a meter.
31. (new) A device in accordance with claim 24, further comprising:
a shoulder, extending laterally outwardly from the inclined upper edge of the upper sleeve;
a collar, circumscribing the shoulder and extending longitudinally from the shoulder;

a flange, extending laterally outwardly from the angled ring, and disposed over the collar of the upper sleeve; and

a protrusion, extending longitudinally from the angled ring and into the collar of the upper sleeve.